

STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: 03/09/07
Agenda Item: 8

To: BEACON Board of Directors
From: Executive Director
Date 02-28-07

Subject: Participation in the Regional Sediment Management Plan Development

REQUIRED ACTION:

- a. Receive report on BEACON participation in a regional sediment plan development for the Central Coast.
- b. Acknowledgement of letter of Interest submitted by Staff to California Geological Survey.
- c. Authorize Executive Director to accept a grant from the Department of Boating and Waterways (DBAW) in an amount of approximately \$120,000, execute a grant with DBAW for the same amount, and execute a consultant contract(s) for performance of work.

DISCUSSION:

In the summer of 2003 the California Department of Boating and Waterways (DBAW) committed grant funding to address the Coastal Sediment Management Master Plan Project. The Coastal Sediment Management Master Plan Project effort included a Biological Study and a Sedimentation Study. In April 2004 the Board adopt a resolution (#2004-3) authorizing BEACON to accept the State funding and subsequently BEACON executed the agreement with the Department of Boating and Waterways. The total grant amount including subsequent amendments is for \$414,270.

In November 2004 a contract with SAIC (a consultant) was executed to address the Biological Study and in January 2005 a contract was executed with the USGS for the Sedimentation Study. These studies are nearing completion.

In January 2007 BEACON staff was contacted by the California Geological Survey inquiring whether BEACON was interested in participating in the next step to the Coastal Sediment Management Master Plan Project. This next step would be to develop a Coastal Regional (Central Coast) Sediment Master Plan.

The scope of the Coastal Regional Sediment Master Plan is to formulate consensus-driven regional sediment management guidance and policy, under the direction of a regional governmental body.



A California Joint Powers Agency

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BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Friday, March 9, 2007

Page 2

The intended outcome of this effort is:

- Restore and maintain coastal beaches and other critical areas of sediment deficit or excess
- Reduce the proliferation of protective shoreline structures
- Sustain recreation and tourism
- Enhance public safety and access
- Restore coastal sandy habitats

The basis of the regional plan would be:

- Region-specific coastal processes, economic, environmental, geographic and societal data
- Utilization of current reports, data, educational, process, regulatory and informational tools developed and compiled by the Coastal Sediment Working Group (CSMW) as part of the Sediment Master Plan
- Needs of local and regional governments as well as local non-governmental stakeholders.

The detailed proposed scope of work is attached.

In response to this request, Staff submitted a Letter of Interest (see attached). Following review of the Letter of Interest, the CSMW indicated to BEACON that they are ready to move forward with the Regional Sediment Master Plan for the Central Coast. A grant in an amount of approximately \$120,000 from the Department of Boating and Waterways (DBAW) will be offered to BEACON. The guidelines of the Coastal Regional Sediment Master Plan effort stipulate that the DBAW grant funds are to be utilized by BEACON in securing consultant services to perform the scope of work. In addition, BEACON will contribute at its cost technical oversight, contract management and public outreach services. These BEACON services will be provided in-kind by the Executive Director and staff time from the Cities of Ventura and Santa Barbara. In addition, contract management and technical oversight will be provided by BEACON's management consultants Gerald Comati (COM3 Consulting) and Jim Bailard. There is sufficient General Funds to cover the additional costs of Gerald Comati and Jim Bailard estimated at \$5,000.

It is staff's assessment that the Coastal Regional Sediment Master Plan effort will be beneficial for BEACON by establishing a master plan for the protection and enhancement of the Central Coast's coastal beach resources. Staff therefore recommends that BEACON proceed with participation in the development of a Coastal Regional Sediment Master Plan and recommend that the Board authorize the Executive Director to accept and execute a grant from the Department of Boating and Waterways and execute contract(s) with a qualified consultant(s) to perform portions of the Coastal Regional Sediment Master Plan development effort.